

Message Text

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INTERIOR:DR. JOSEPH LINDUSKA (INFO)

CEQ:DR. LEE TALBOT (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UR, OTRA

SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: ALPHA-HELIX

1. ROBERT V. MILLER OF NOAA HAS JUST RETURNED FROM ALASKA
AND REPORTS THAT SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN ALPHA HELIX EXERCISE
WAS FULL SUCCESS. BESIDE WORK DONE WITH OTHER SCIENTISTS
ABOARD RESEARCH VESSEL, SOVIET SCIENTIST WHO REMAINED ON LAND
FOR FIRST PART OF EXPEDITION (FEDOSEEV, NOT GOLTSEV) CONTRIBUTED
SOME VALUABLE WORK IN MEASURING ICE SEAL SKULLS.

2. FINANCIAL PROBLEMS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN RESOLVED WITH-
OUT ANY RESIDUE OF CONCERN. MONEY TO TAKE CARE OF SOVIET
SCIENTISTS WAS PROBLEM FROM OUTSET, AND AS EMBASSY AWARE,
US HOST DR. ROBERT ELSNER WAS DOUBTFUL HE COULD HANDLE TWO
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SOVIET VISITORS. HE APPARENTLY MADE GREAT EFFORT TO MEET

ALL SOVIET NEEDS, INCLUDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADDED STOPOVERS
FOR BRIEF RESEARCH IN SEATTLE AND AT NEW YORK
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM. MILLER MET WITH FEDOSEEV AND
GOLTSEV AT END THEIR SEATTLE STOPOVER AND SAID THEY WERE VERY
HAPPY WITH ENTIRE VISIT.

3. AGREEMENT REACHED IN MOSCOW IN JANUARY 1973
WAS THAT RECEIVING SIDE WOULD PAY, BUT NOTHING WAS SPECIFIED
ABOUT PER DIEM. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT ORDINARILY "RECEIVING
SIDE PAYS" CALLS FOR FURNISHING OF SOME PER DIEM, THIS IS
NOT RIGID RULE, AND WE BELIEVE THAT IN SPECIAL ALASKAN CIR-
CUMSTANCES OF ALPHA HELIX EXERCISE BOTH SOVIET PARTICIPANTS
CAME OFF WELL WITHOUT RECEIVING ANY PER DIEM. IF HYDROMET
PURSUES SUBJECT, EMBASSY CAN ADVISE THEM OF FOREGOING, AND
SAY THAT US HOSTS ARE UNDER IMPRESSION SOVIET VISITORS WOULD
UP WELL PLEASED WITH THEIR VISIT. RUSH

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